

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 ACDA-10 IO-14 /094 W  
-----031241 091855Z /43

P R 091535Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1302  
INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
JCS WASHDC  
DIA WASHDC  
USNMR SHAPE  
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

UNCLAS BONN 14776

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: MPOL, GW  
SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 8 BUNDESTAG DEBATE: MOD LEBER'S  
STATEMENTS ON US DEFENSE STRATEGY

REF: BONN 14746

1. REGARDING RECENT PRESS SPECULATION ON CHANGES IN US  
DEFENSE STRATEGY, MOD LEBER SAID IN HIS 8 SEPTEMBER  
BUNDESTAG SPEECH THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE IT  
CLEAR MANY TIMES SINCE THE LONDON SUMMIT IN MAY THAT  
WASHINGTON "REMAINS COMMITTED TO NATO STRATEGY AND TO  
THE PRINCIPLE OF FORWARD DEFENSE". IN THIS CONTEXT,  
LEBER READ ALOUD THE TEXTS OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S AUGUST  
27 MESSAGE TO THE ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION AND OF  
SECRETARY BROWN'S AUGUST 31 LETTER TO LEBER. READING  
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WAS GREETED WITH LOUD APPLAUSE. LEBER SAID  
THESE STATEMENTS LEFT "NO DOUBT" REGARDING US COMMITMENT  
TO ESTABLISHED NATO STRATEGY, AND HE SAID THE FRG WAS  
"ESPECIALLY GRATEFUL" FOR THEM.

2. LEBER EMPHASIZED THAT IT WAS NOT JUST A QUESTION OF  
"GERMAN BLADES OF GRASS" BUT "OF THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR

COUNTRY". HE ADDED: "FOR US THESE QUESTIONS ARE NOT THE OUTFLOW OF TACTICAL OR HYPOTHETICAL CONSIDERATIONS; THEY AFFECT OUR EXISTENCE, AND THEY ARE THEREFORE THE OPERATIVE BASIS FOR OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE ALLIANCE".

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, MILITARY PLANS, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BONN14776  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BONN 14746  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1338959  
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**Subject:** SEPTEMBER 8 BUNDESTAG DEBATE: MOD LEBER'S STATEMENTS ON US DEFENSE STRATEGY  
**TAGS:** MPOL, MOPS, GE, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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